

CLAIMS

1. An input method using an input apparatus in which
a touch panel is laminated onto a display screen
5 of a display apparatus,

a sensor unit is formed so as to be expanded to
the outside of one side of said display screen,

an instruction according to a touching position
of a finger or a touch pen onto said sensor unit is given,
10 and a controller generates a control signal on the basis
of said instruction,

comprising the steps of:

displaying a selection display comprising a
plurality of selection items along said side of said display
15 screen when the finger or the touch pen is touched to said
sensor unit;

instructing one of said selection items when the
finger or the touch pen is moved along said side on said
sensor unit; and

20 instructing selection of said instructed
selection item when the finger or the touch pen is released
from said sensor unit.

2. An input method according to claim 1, wherein
by operating a predetermined button on a
25 display/sensor unit of said touch panel overlapped with said
display screen, an instruction corresponding to said button
is generated.

3. An input method according to claim 1, wherein
said selection display is finished when the finger
or the touch pen is moved from said sensor unit to said display
screen side.

5 4. An input method according to claim 1, wherein
said selection display is a menu display.

5. An input apparatus in which a touch panel is
laminated onto a display screen of a display apparatus,
comprising:

10 a sensor unit formed so as to be expanded to the
outside of one side of said display screen; and

a controller to which an instruction according
to a touching position of a finger or a touch pen onto said
sensor unit is given and which generates a control signal
15 on the basis of said instruction,

wherein said controller controls the display
apparatus in such a manner that a selection display
comprising a plurality of selection items is displayed along
said side of said display screen when the finger or the touch
20 pen is touched to said sensor unit and one of said selection
items is instructed when the finger or the touch pen is moved
along said side on said sensor unit, and

said controller generates the control signal to
instruct selection of said instructed selection item when
25 the finger or the touch pen is released from said sensor
unit.

6. An input apparatus according to claim 5, wherein

by operating a predetermined button on a display/sensor unit of said touch panel overlapped with said display screen, said controller generates an instruction corresponding to said button.

5 7. An input apparatus according to claim 5, wherein
 said selection display is finished when the finger
 or the touch pen is moved from said sensor unit to said display
 screen side.

 8. An input apparatus according to claim 5, wherein
10 said selection display is a menu display.